November 13, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Free Press: Court of Claims judges named by Supreme Court

"The Michigan Supreme Court today named the four Michigan Court of Appeals judges who will serve on the revamped Court of Claims, in an announcement that stressed their trial experience. Two of the judges selected were appointed to the Court of Appeals by former Republican Gov. John Engler and two by former Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm."

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Lansing State Journal, and the Times Herald/Port Huron.

Also see:

The Detroit News: Michigan Supreme Court appoints judges to new Court of Claims

Full story

MLive.com: New Michigan Court of Claims features judges with both Republican, Democratic ties

Full story

The MLW Blog: And the new Court of Claims judges are ...

Full story

OCJ Blog: MSC appoints four COA judges to the new Court of Claims

Full story

SBM Blog: Breaking: Supreme Court Appoints Court of Claims Judges

Full story

Michigan Court of Claims judges named

Unanimous Supreme Court appoints Judges Pat M. Donofrio, Amy Ronayne Krause, Deborah A. Servitto, Michael J. Talbot; judges' previous trial experience cited

Press release

The Detroit News: Bill changing how residents sue state government now law

"Gov. Rick Snyder signed into law Tuesday a controversial bill that makes major changes to the way Michigan residents can sue state government, including his administration. But the Republican governor also acknowledged the legislation switching Michigan's Court of Claims from Ingham County Circuit Court to the state Court of Appeals has flaws that need to be fixed with additional legislation." *Full story*

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Gov. Snyder signs court shake-up bill; Ingham judge says new law is 'payback'

Full story

Associated Press: Snyder signs law moving lawsuits to appeals court *Full story*

Note: This Associated Press also ran in the Oakland Press and other media outlets. Crain's Detroit Business: Governor signs Court of Claims bill, but acknowledged follow-up law still needed

Full story

Hometown Life Newspapers: State Rep. Phil Cavanagh: Republicans railroad citizens, democratic process while hijacking Court of Claims

Full story

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Governor signs bill to move Court of Claims
Full story

MLive.com: Snyder signs controversial bill moving Michigan Court of Claims: 'Let's keep improving things'

Full story

The MLW Blog: Time to pack up and move: Court of Claims bill signed into law

Full story

SBM Blog: Report: Governor Signs Court Of Claims Bill And Says Trailer Bill Is In The Works

Full story

The Times Herald/Port Huron: Editorial: Don't fix a bad law with a crazy one Full story

WKAR News/East Lansing: Senator Whitmer address medical marijuana, court of claims

Full story

Detroit Free Press: An odd poster child for battered women behind bars

"... Eight of the 10 were convicted before 1992, when the Michigan Court of Appeals first allowed women accused of assaulting or killing abusive partners to present evidence of their abuse and expert testimony about its psychological impact. Half were tried prior to 1988, when Michigan outlawed marital rape."

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Wayne County leaders: Let state pay for a new Mound Road courthouse, jail rehab

"Several Wayne County commissioners said Tuesday they'll reject a plan to move the county's justice center to a site on Mound Road unless the state helps pay for construction of a new courthouse and jail beds there. But the state said paying for construction has never been part of the deal."

Full story

Dexter Leader: DEXTER: Village settles public easement lawsuit with Blackhawk Development

"Village officials recently settled out an old lawsuit hanging around from the residential and commercial development boom times of the 1990s, which remarkably went as high as the state Supreme Court. The village essentially ended up purchasing a parcel of land for which it has public easement for \$75,000 in water and sewer tap fee credits to Blackhawk Development LLC."

Full story

Flint Journal: Genesee County judge orders Toyota to turn over documents in fatal unintended acceleration crash case

"A Genesee County judge has ordered Toyota to turn over documents that attorneys say may prove that a faulty sensor played a role in a car crash that claimed the life of 77-year-old Guadalupe Alberto. Attorneys representing Alberto's estate [are suing Toyota over the incident.]"

Full story

FreeNewsPos.com: WASHTENAW COUNTY: Area courts receive grants for innovative projects

"Combating human trafficking, peacemaking court, Smart phone apps that let users check in for court hearings — these are just some of the projects that Michigan courts will be pursuing, thanks to recently announced grants from the Court Performance Innovation Fund."

Full story

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Jackson County law enforcement hoping to increase efficiency, cut down on human error with e-ticket system

"In an effort to increase data accuracy and efficiency, law enforcement officials throughout Jackson County could soon transition to an electronic ticketing system....The system, iyeTek e-Citation, is a records management system that would immediately link information gathered at the scene of an accident or investigation to one database accessible by all township law enforcement agencies, the sheriff's office, the city police and the Jackson County District Court."

Full story

Macomb County Legal News: State high court adds juvenile lifers to docket

"The Michigan Supreme Court will decide whether roughly 360 prisoners serving mandatory no-parole sentences for crimes they committed when they were under age 18 deserve a shot at freedom. The key issue is whether a 2012 U.S. Supreme Court ruling striking down those sentences should be applied retroactively to inmates now behind bars."

Full story

The Macomb Daily: Macomb County judge fights claim he owes child support

"Judge Richard Caretti is contesting a claim by his ex-wife that he still owes \$1,750 for one month of child support in 2012 because she never cashed the payment check. Lori Conway of Franklin says she inadvertently never cashed the mailed check from Caretti for the August 2012 monthly payment and recently found it in a drawer in her home."

Full story

Midland Daily News: Roses to Morris for Frank J. Kelley award

"Roses to: Retired Probate Judge Donna Morris awarded the Frank J. Kelley Distinguished Public Service Award from the State Bar of Michigan."

Full story

Midland Daily News: Eagle Village Recognizes November as National Adoption Month

"This year, the staff at Eagle Village certainly has quite a bit to be thankful for as they have twenty-four adoptions finalized already this year with a potential of thirty by year-end. According to Brenda Bolin, Director of Foster and Adoption Services, twenty-seven adoptions completed last year was the record so far."

Full story

Muskegon Chronicle: Muskegon County attorney Chad Catalino named 'Parent Attorney of the Year' by state board

"Muskegon County attorney Chad D. Catalino has been given the 'Parent Attorney of the Year Award' by the state's Foster Care Review Board. The board annually presents Child Welfare Awards to recognize exceptional service to abused and neglected children and their families in the state's child welfare system."

Full story

Also see:

2013 Child Welfare Award winners announced

Foster Care Review Board recognizes honorees for helping children in foster care Press release

Oakland Count y Legal News: Mediation Center offers training in December

"The Oakland Mediation Center (OMC) has opened its doors to an 8-Hour Advanced Mediator Training in December to expand the minds of intermediaries and dig deep into their souls for the recognition that every dispute brings new challenges."

Full story

WILX-TV(10)/Lansing: Older Children Often Overlooked For Adoption

"Two months ago, a 15-year-old boy in Florida walked into a church and stood before hundreds, asking for a family. Davion Henry's plea for a home sparked national attention, with thousands of people inquiring about adopting him. But there are kids just like him here in Michigan who too are searching for forever families."

Full story